

NEWS FROM SCDCA

South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs



Brandolyn Thomas Pinkston, Administrator

March 5, 2010

Release #10-012

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SCDCA HIGHLIGHTS CONSUMER PROTECTION WEEK WITH AWARD CEREMONY

Columbia, SC.....National Consumer Protection Week: “Dollars & Sense” begins Monday, March 8, 2010. In an effort to encourage and increase financial literacy, the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs (SCDCA) will sponsor a number of consumer activities and initiatives statewide. The highlight of the week will be a Recognition Ceremony for the winners of the 2009-2010 Essay Competition at the Statehouse in the Capitol Rotunda on Wednesday, March 10th at 11:00 a.m.

The five winners (5th and 6th graders) were selected from nearly 600 entrants across the state who wrote on the topic “If I Had \$100, I Would ...” The purpose of the competition was to encourage financial literacy and fiscal responsibility at an early age. The winners listed below will each receive \$100 savings bonds, courtesy of the South Carolina Bankers’ Association.

Essay Winners

Andrew Zeringue, Moultrie Middle School Sarah Feingold, Charleston Catholic School
Sojo Tripp, Moultrie Middle School Taylor Covington, Ewing Middle School
Travaisha Shaw, Felton Laboratory School

NCPW Activities Sponsored by SCDCA

All South Carolina consumers are invited to participate in the following SCDCA events next week. Shred Days provide consumers an excellent opportunity to bring personal and sensitive documents to be securely destroyed onsite for free. For details on specific Shred Day locations,

About the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs:

Established by the Consumer Protection code in 1974, The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs represents the interests of South Carolina Consumers.

Our mission is to protect consumers from inequities in the marketplace through advocacy, mediation, enforcement and education.

For more information, visit www.scconsumer.gov.

visit www.sconsumer.gov. Consumers are also encouraged to call-in during Consumer Phone Banks with questions on financial and consumer-related issues.

Shred Days

Aiken Shred Day: Monday, March 8th, 12 noon - 4 p.m.

Midlands Shred Day: Thursday, March 11th, 8 a.m. – 12 noon and 2 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Charleston Shred Day: Friday, March 12th, 8 a.m. – 12 noon and 2 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Phone Banks

Upstate Phone Bank: Monday, March 8th, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. on WYFF, Channel 4

Midlands Phone Bank: Wednesday, March 10th, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. on WIS, Channel 10

SCDCA Financial Toolkit

SCDCA will roll out its Financial Toolkit with consumer resources and information on debt collection, lending, credit, and identity theft. The toolkits will be available to consumers by request. Both hard copies and electronic toolkits will be available.

Special thanks to our Recognition Ceremony sponsors: Direct Selling Education Foundation, South Carolina Bankers' Association, and the Central Carolina Community Foundation. Thanks also to our NCPW Partners: USDA Rural Development, FBI Columbia Office, U.S. Attorney's Office, S.C. Attorney General's Office, USPIS, Shred 360, and the Lt. Governor's Council on Aging.

For more information on National Consumer Protection Week activities and resources, contact the Public Information Division at call 803-734-4296 or toll-free at 1.800.922.1594 or visit us online at www.sconsumer.gov.

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